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## Chugai Hosted Discussion Series to Drive Quality Cancer Care in Developing Countries in Asia in Partnership with City Cancer Challenge

- A monthly discussion series was held from July to September to drive quality cancer care in Asia, in the second year of the partnership with City Cancer Challenge
- A total of more than 300 stakeholders, mainly healthcare professionals, participated online. An executive summary of the discussion has been published for the development of treatment guidelines

TOKYO, November 16, 2021 -- [Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.](#) (TOKYO: 4519) announced that it hosted a discussion series in partnership with [City Cancer Challenge Foundation \(C/Can\)](#) to drive quality cancer care in Asia as one of its initiatives for global health.

Last year, Chugai sponsored a project to promote the multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach in Myanmar jointly with C/Can. In the second year of the partnership, an online discussion series was held monthly from July to September this year to drive quality cancer care in multiple developing countries in Asia.

Through a series of three sessions, a total of more than 300 healthcare professionals, local health authorities, and representatives from local communities and the private sector participated in the discussion from 17 countries including Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, and so forth. A variety of participants discussed barriers and success factors for local healthcare professionals. The topics included enhancement of MDT approach and development of treatment guidelines for breast and cervical cancers according to resources available. The discussions from each round have been published on the C/Can website in an executive summary. The summary will be utilized or referenced in future discussion with local health authorities through C/Can projects, in order to advance a patient-centered MDT approach and develop treatment guidelines reflecting resources available.

The executive summary: <https://citycancerchallenge.org/driving-quality-cancer-case-in-asia/>

“The discussion series focused on the cancer care in Asia, which is a very important issue,” said Dr. Emi Noguchi, Head of Physicians, Department of Medical Oncology at National Cancer Center Hospital, Japan. “By sharing learning and experiences, international experts from C/Can’s network and those representatives from local communities who provide voices from the clinical frontlines were able to reflect local needs and realities in their discussion.”

“Chugai aims to become a global role model as a leader in resolving social issues by pursuing ESG initiatives through our business activities. I am pleased that we were able to implement another project with C/Can this year to improve the quality of cancer care, despite the continued impacts of COVID-19,” said Dr. Osamu Okuda, Chugai’s President and CEO. “I hope that, going forward, the discussion will contribute to the development of treatment guidelines that are based on resources available in each region.

We will continue focusing on the local needs and medical environment to work for global health by utilizing our strengths.”

Cancer is an increasingly serious issue, particularly in low-and middle-income countries (LMICs) in Asia. In 2020, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) estimated that more than 5.8 million people die from cancer in the region. This means that it accounts for more than half of the 10 million cancer deaths worldwide.

Chugai and C/Can joined forces in Yangon, Myanmar, last year to improve the quality of patient-centered cancer care, supporting a MDT approach and the development, dissemination, and development of guidelines tailored to local circumstances and resources. This year's discussion series, which greatly expanded the range of areas and subjects, was conducted through collaboration with C/Can, the Asia Cancer Centres Network Alliance (ANCCA), National Cancer Center of Japan and the Tata Memorial Hospital in India.

#### **Details**

Theme:	Barriers and success factors for the multidisciplinary team approach
Date:	July 30, August 23, and September 24, 2021
# of Participants:	More than 300
Participants:	Healthcare professionals (physicians and nurses), local health authorities, and representatives from local communities and the private sector, from 17 Asian countries including Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Myanmar
Style:	Online
Objective:	To improve the level of cancer care through better understanding of the barriers and success factors for local healthcare professionals
Contents:	Share issues and experiences in promoting a multidisciplinary team approach in cancer care, discuss development and formulation of guidelines for invasive breast and cervical cancer suitable for resources in each city in Asia
Video:	Highlights are available at Chugai's official YouTube channel as below <a href="https://youtu.be/aqWeosTeW9w">https://youtu.be/aqWeosTeW9w</a>

#### **[References]**

Chugai Announces New Partnership with City Cancer Challenge Foundation to Enhance the Quality of Patient-Centered Cancer Care in Yangon (Press release by Chugai issued on July 20, 2020)

[https://www.chugai-pharm.co.jp/english/news/detail/20200720150001\\_745.html](https://www.chugai-pharm.co.jp/english/news/detail/20200720150001_745.html)

#### **About quality cancer care**

Quality cancer care is complex and highly dependent on the well-functioning of organizational structures, such as multidisciplinary teams, that enable each provider to add value to the care of the patient at a specific point in time. Each failure in communication between the various care providers can result in delayed treatment planning, reduced therapy effectiveness, unnecessary duplication of tests, misallocation of resources, incomplete follow-up, and reduced patient quality of life. In addition, it is important to have support from health authorities and other governmental agencies, as well as cooperation with local

communities to address the shortage of time and the heavy workload of healthcare professionals.

#### **About City Cancer Challenge Foundation**

City Cancer Challenge Foundation (C/Can) supports cities around the world as they work to improve access to equitable, quality cancer care. C/Can leads a city-based partnership initiative that aims to improve access to quality cancer care in cities around the world by transforming the way stakeholders from the public and private sectors collectively design, plan, and implement cancer solutions. The approach is built on the core principle that cities can drive impact at national level by crafting data-driven solutions with the support of a network of global, regional, and local partners that reflect an understanding of the unique local context. C/Can was launched by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) at the 2017 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. It was established as a standalone Swiss foundation in January 2019.

#### **About Chugai's Global Health Initiatives**

Chugai's SDGs development goal focuses on “Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being” which is directly linked to Chugai's mission. In developing countries in Asia, we will continue activities to support improved patient-centered quality cancer care through multidisciplinary team approaches and guideline development appropriate for resources. Chugai's basic approach to global health concepts, please refer to the following page.

<https://www.chugai-pharm.co.jp/english/sustainability/globalhealth/concept.html>

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